

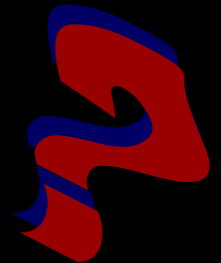
The Inquiry Approach to Learning

A Definition, Classroom Description,
& Example

A Definition



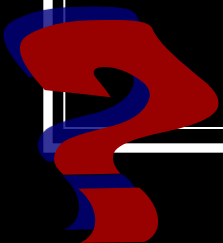
- Inquiry is a recursive, ever-revolving process driven by the learner's ideas, questions and purposes, for learning begins with personal connection.
- Inquiry is experiential learning.
- Inquiry involves immersing children in a topic with time to explore, wonder, investigate, and research.



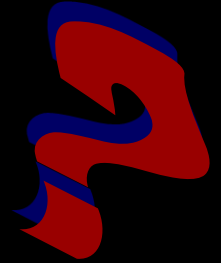
Classroom Description



- Children who are learning to be researchers need to work for extended periods of time in a room where the hum of learning is appreciated.
- Learning through inquiry demands both listening and participation.
- Interacting with one another and the teacher is an important part of discovery.



An Example



- What do I want to know about Appalachia?
 - Who first settled this region?
 - How are the people in stereotyped?
 - Has this area been featured in books?

What are my research topics for Appalachia?

- History of settlers
- Stereotypes
- Books about Appalachia



How can I find out about Appalachia?

- Internet
- Books
- Interviews
- Articles



I Can Research by . . .

- Using the following web site:
www.mcweb.marting.k12.ky.us/hillsweb1.htm
- Reading books with Appalachian settings, such as:
Belle Prater's Boy (R. White, 1997) and *Appalachia: Voices of Sleeping Birds* (C. Rylant, 1991)
- Interviewing native Appalachians about their heritage
- Examining articles pertaining to Appalachia. For example: "Linguist Finds Dialect A-Flourishin' in Appalachia" (K. Hazen, The NY Times, 2/7/2000)

This is what I discovered about Appalachia . . .

Question	Answer #1	Answer #2	Answer #3
Who first settled this region?	Scots-Irish immigrants	Hunters & trappers	Native Americans
How are the people stereotyped?	Hillbilly & redneck	Uneducated & dumb	Intermarried & poor with a lot of children
Has this area been featured in books?	<i>Belle Prater's Boy</i> (R. White, 1997)	<i>Mama Is a Miner</i> (G. Lyon, 1994)	<i>Missing May</i> (C. Rylant, 1993)

What Will Your Inquiry Research Project Look Like?

- <http://www.youblisher.com/p/45360-ESL-Inquiry-Example-Spain>
- See both assignment sheets
 - Culture Inquiry Research Project
 - Culture Inquiry Research Guidelines